

## Message Text

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21

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-05 OC-05

CCO-00 DHA-02 /075 W

----- 057973

O 151231Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5381

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

NAVCOMMU ASMARA PRIORITY

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENGLAND PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

NAVCOMMSTA GREECE NEA MAKRI GREECE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8401

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR ET

SUBJECT: CICSO TWO: AGREEMENT WITH EPMG

REF: STATE 165662

1. FOLLOWING AIDE MEMOIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED AND WILL BE HANDED TO FONMIN WITH WHOM I HAVE APPOINTMENT AT 1530 HRS. JULY 15. BEGIN QUOTE: AS THE MINISTRY IS AWARE, TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS, MESSRS. STEVE CAMPBELL AND JIM HARREL, WERE REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED AT APPROXIMATELY 1100 HOURS LOCAL FROM "TRACT D" KAGNEW STATION, YESTERDAY, JULY 14, 1975.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE MEN WERE ABDUCTED, TOGETHER WITH FOUR ETHIOPIAN KAGNEW STATION EMPLOYEES, MESSRS. TESFA MARIAM  
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GETAHUN, TEKLE KIDAN, AFEWORQ HAITA AND ZERAYE MARKOS. THE

AMERICANS IN QUESTION ARE EMPLOYEES OF COLLINS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMPANY (CISCO), A UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACTOR. ACCORDING TO THE SOLE REMAINING ETHIOPIAN EMPLOYEE, WHO IS THE SOURCE OF THE FOREGOING INFORMATION, THE ABDUCTOR(S) WERE FROM THE SO-CALLED (ERITREAN) PEOPLES LIBERATION FRONT -- PLF.

THE EMBASSY GREATLY APPRECIATES THE PROMPT RESPONSE OF THE ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES IN ASMARA IN PROVIDING AMERICAN CITIZENS AND INSTALLATIONS INCREASED SECURITY AND IN PROCEEDING AT ONCE WITH EFFORTS TO TRACK THE ABDUCTOR(S) AND THEIR PRISONERS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PRACTICE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, OF COURSE, RECOGNIZES THAT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFE RELEASE OF THESE PRISONERS RESTS WITH THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HOWEVER, IS PREPARED TO OFFER THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TOWARDS THE REALIZATION OF THE OBJECTIVE, VIZ, THE SAFE RETURN OF THESE HOSTAGES.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS WHICH GOVERN THE CONDUCT OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN CASES OF THIS KIND ARE SUMMARIZED BELOW FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FEELS CONCERN AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS. IT IS PREPARED TO ASSIST IN EVERY WAY IN RECOVERING AMERICANS SEIZED BY TERRORISTS COOPERATING WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT UPON WHICH RESTS THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EFFORTS TO SECURE THEIR SAFE RELEASE.

"ALTHOUGH THE SAFE RETURN OF HOSTAGES BY ANY APPROPRIATE MEANS IS THE KEY OBJECTIVE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THIS GOAL CAN BE ATTAINED IF POSSIBLE WITHOUT PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR FUTURE TERRORIST ACTS. TO THIS END IT WOULD WELCOME THE APPREHENSION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE ABDUCTORS, ACCORDING TO LAW.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO REMAIN IN THE CLOSEST CONTACT WITH THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND WILL BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT IT WITH APPROPRIATE RESOURCES TO HELP IT ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE. WHILE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CANNOT SUBSTITUTE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TERRORISTS, IT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO COUNSEL THE ETHIO-

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PIAN AUTHORITIES ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE RESCUE OPERATION. IF DEMANDS ARE MADE UPON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. IT WILL NORMALLY RESPOND THROUGH THE NEGOTIATING HOST GOVERNMENT.

"SHOULD THE MATTER OF A MONETARY RANSOM ARISE, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE KNOWN THAT, AS A MATTER OF POLICY, IT DOES NOT PAY SUCH MONEY.

"THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WILL BEAR IN MIND THE WISHES

AND RIGHTS OF THE HOSTAGE'S FAMILY AND/OR EMPLOYER AND  
WILL STRIVE TO BRING THEM INTO HARMONY WITH THOSE OF THE  
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE POLICY  
CONSIDERATIONS SET FORTH ABOVE.

TO ACCOMPLISH THESE PURPOSES, THE EMBASSY EXPECTS TO REMAIN  
IN DIRECT AND CONTINUING CONTACT WITH THE AMERICAN AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS UNLESS THE GOVERN-  
MENT OF ETHIOPIA DESIGNATES ANOTHER OFFICIAL PRIMARY CONTACT  
POINT.

THE EMBASSY ALSO PROPOSES THAT ANY AND ALL OFFICIAL PUBLIC  
STATEMENTS ON THIS MATTER BE COORDINATED AND AGREED BETWEEN THE  
TWO GOVERNMENTS THROUGH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES BEFORE THEIR  
ISSUANCE SO THAT THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE HOSTAGES MAY  
TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE BE PROTECTED. END QUOTE.

2. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THESE POINTS HAD ALREADY BEEN COMMUNICATED  
TO THE MOFA (AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR) VERBALLY AT 1500 HOURS  
YESTERDAY, JULY 14. WE WILL DISCUSS THEM THOROUGHLY ONCE MORE  
WHEN WE PRESENT ABOVE AIDE EMOIRE.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, CITIZEN PROTECTION, BUSINESSMEN, AIDE MEMOIRE, NEGOTIATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 JUL 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D750243-1044  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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